

AQA Paper 1 Exam Analysis



ATTACHMENT

2026

Two features of insecure attachments (2)

Reliability of questionnaires – scenario (3)

Validity of questionnaires – scenario (3)

Bowlby's monotropic theory – scenario (16)

2025

Definition of reciprocity (2)

Examples of reciprocity – scenario (2)

How reciprocal behaviours could be sampled – scenario (2)

Correlation coefficient of 0.26 in reliability (2)

How reliability could be improved (2)

Findings of one animal study (3)

Limitation of animal study (3)

Findings into the role of the father (8)

2024

Reciprocity – scenario (1)

Interactional synchrony – scenario (1)

Critical period and internal working model (6)

Romanian orphan studies (16)

2023

Learning theory (4)

Van Ijzendoorn study (4)

Bowlby's theory of maternal deprivation – scenario (16)

2022

Attachment concepts not by Bowlby (2)

Example of cultural variation (2)

Early attachment on later relationships – scenario (4)

Lorenz's and Harlow's animal studies of attachment (16)

2021

Learning theory of attachment (before) - scenario (1)

Learning theory of attachment (after) - scenario (1)

Difference between insecure-avoidant and insecure-resistant attachment (2)

Evaluate the 'Strange Situation' (5)

Statistical test choice/ reasons – scenario (7)

Early attachment on childhood relationships – scenario (8)

2020

Attachment type (Insecure-resistant) – scenario (1)

Two other types of attachment (4)

How studies of attachment could be improved by using controlled observations (3)

Research into caregiver-infant interactions (16)

2019

Research into the role of the father in attachment (4)

Economic implications of research into the role of the father in attachment (4)

Research into the influence of early attachment on childhood and/or adult relationships (16)

2018

Effects of institutionalisation (2)

Lorenz and Harlow studies of attachment (6)

Learning theory of attachment & Bowlby's monotropic theory – scenario (16)

2017

Two characteristics of insecure-resistant attachment (2)

Three of the stages of attachment identified by Schaffer (3)

Define reciprocity (2)

Evaluate research into caregiver-infant interaction (4)

Knowledge of the effects of institutionalisation – scenario (5)

Discuss findings of research into cultural variations in attachment (8)

Specimen Practice Papers

Three stages in the development of attachments identified by Schaffer (3)

Attachment type demonstrated – scenario (3)

Evaluate learning theory as an explanation of attachment (4)

Define event sampling (2)

Discuss how observational research might be improved by conducting observations in a controlled environment (4)

Discuss research into the influence of early attachment on adult relationships (8)

Mix and match John Bowlby, Mary Ainsworth, Harry Harlow, Karl Lorenz, Rudolf Schaffer (4)

Discuss how researchers might address difficulties encountered when trying to investigate caregiver-infant interaction (4)

Discuss the effects of institutionalisation (16)



* **NOTE:** Some of the topics have been removed so will not appear in exams from 2027 onwards,
see specification for details.



STUDY PSYCHOLOGY

• HELPING YOU ACHIEVE